## 1 <u>CLAIMS</u>

2

A household appliance for integrating into a sector of a worktop (5) comprising an operating strip (7) containing at least one operating element (13) and having a supporting surface (23) on the lower side thereof for supporting the household appliance on the worktop (5), characterised in that the operating strip (7) is substantially produced by forming or milling.

10

11 [002] The household appliance according to claim 1, 12 characterised in that the material thickness of the 13 operating strip (7) changes depending on requirements.

14

15 [003] The household appliance according to claim 1 or 2, 16 characterised in that the operating strip (7) consists 17 of a semi-finished product made of solid material.

18

19 [004] The household appliance according to any one of 20 the preceding claims, characterised in that at least 21 one recess (11, 15, 33, 41) for an appliance component 22 is constructed in the operating strip.

23

24 [005] The household appliance according to claim 4, 25 characterised in that the recess (15, 33, 41) together 26 with the supporting surface (23) is constructed on the 27 underside of the operating strip (7).

28

29 [006] The household appliance according to any one of 30 claims 4 or 5, characterised in that at least one 31 mounting recess (33) is constructed in the operating 32 strip (7) wherein a fixing flange (31) of a housing

portion (25) is in abutment with the operating strip 1 2 (7). 3 [007] The operating strip according to claim 6, 4 characterised in that the housing-side fixing flange 5 (31) is arranged in the mounting recess (33) of the 6 7 operating strip (7) such that it is staggered in relation to the supporting surface (23) or ends flush 8 with the supporting surface (23) in a sealed manner. 9 10 [800] The household appliance according to any one of 11 claims 5 to 7, characterised in that the at least one 12 recess (15, 33, 41) is substantially surrounded by the 13 supporting surface (23) of the operating strip (7). 14 15 [009] The household appliance according to any one of 16 claims 6 to 8, characterised in that one edge of the 17 mounting recess (33) substantially positively surrounds 18 the housing-side fixing flange (31). 19 20 [010] The household appliance according to any one of 21 the claims 6 to 9, characterised in that a plug-in 22 23 recess (53) for inserting a corresponding plug-in 24 portion (45) constructed on the housing portion (25) is constructed inside the mounting recess (33) of the 25 operating strip (7). 26 27 [011] The household appliance according to claim 10, 28 characterised in that the plug-in portion (45) is 29 inserted positively in the plug-in recess (53) of the 30 31 operating strip (7) by means of a plastic adapter (51). 32

The household appliance according to any one of claims 6 to 11, characterised in that the housing-side

fixing flange (31) is connected to the operating strip 1 (7) by means of a screw connection. 2 3 The household appliance according to any one of [013] 4 claims 6 to 12, characterised in that a mounting 5 surface (47) is constructed inside the mounting recess 6 (33) of the operating strip with which the fixing 7 flange (31) comes detachably into abutment. 8 9 [014] The household appliance according to any one of 10 claims 6 to 13, characterised in that a number of 11 mounting recesses spaced apart from one another are 12 provided in the underside of the operating strip (7). 13 14 The household appliance according to claim 14, [015] 15 characterised in that at least one recess (15) for the 16 operating element (13) is constructed between the 17 mounting recesses (33). 18 19 The household appliance according to any one of [016] 20 claims 6 to 15, characterised in that the mounting 21 22 recess (33) and/or the at least one recess (15) for the

operating element (13) are arranged one after the other

23

24

in a row.